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District 8

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04-081

Date: April 15, 2004

LINDEN BRIDGE IS COMING DOWN
(IOWA, TOO)

RIVERSIDE – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) announces the demolition of the Linden Street and Iowa Avenue bridges, the pedestrian and vehicle overcrossings over I-215 in Riverside. The demolition is necessary to widen the freeway below, and is part of the project to improve the 60-91-215 Interchange and Interstate 215. Nighttime full freeway closures will be in effect during the weeks of April 19 and April 26. The decks of the bridges are already being demolished from above. The night work will include breaking up the concrete and torching the rebar of these two bridges. The abutments will be removed after the bridges are demolished. They are not on the roadway and can be safely removed during the day. Demolition work will begin on the portion of the Linden bridge that crosses over I-215 southbound. Then the contractor will proceed to the Iowa bridge. During the week of April 26, the portions of the bridges that cross over northbound I-215 will be removed, along with the median bridge columns.

I-215 southbound will be closed between Blaine and University from 9 PM to 5 AM on Monday-Thursday, April 19-22, ending at 5 AM on Friday, April 23, 2004. The CHP will be on hand to maintain traffic control. Motorists are advised to avoid the area if at all possible. The detour: exit southbound I-215 at Blaine, turn right onto Third, left on Chicago, left on University, and access southbound I-215 at University. If traffic patterns dictate, the eastbound 91 to southbound I-215 connector may also be closed. Closure information for the following week, April 26, will be posted later next week.



NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Transportation
Improving Mobility Across California

04-081
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History of the bridges:

The Linden Street Overcrossing was built by the Division of Highways (now Caltrans) in 1961 at a total cost of \$151,220.03. Its vertical clearance is 15 feet 9 inches eastbound and 15 feet 5 inches westbound. It is 255 feet long. The contractor was Yeager and Stringfellow.

The Iowa Avenue Overcrossing was built by the Division of Highways (now Caltrans) in 1961 at a total cost of \$182,834.73. Its vertical clearance is 19 feet 5 inches eastbound and 20 feet 2 inches westbound. It is 316 feet long. The contractor was Yeager and Stringfellow.

Other 60-91-215 news:

Long term closure of the carpool lane on I-215 between Blaine and University in both directions will be in effect for at least 15 months.

This project's many improvements include widening I-215 from the interchange to past the 60-215 split, and reconstructing the existing bridges over the freeway. By widening the freeway, Caltrans will be able to extend the carpool lane from University to just west of the 60-215 split. Carpool lanes improve commute times for motorists, and spare the air.

The Freeway Service Patrol (FSP), a special team of tow trucks that travel on selected freeways during peak hours to assist drivers when their cars break down, will be active at this work location during construction. In addition to peak periods, the FSP will be available throughout the day to assist motorists who may become stranded in the area. The FSP is funded by Caltrans and the Riverside County Transportation Commission, and was created to keep Riverside County's freeways moving.

Motorists are advised to use caution and allow extra time, and as always, slow for the cone zone. The safety of roadway workers depends on the motoring public.

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